



southern california dx club

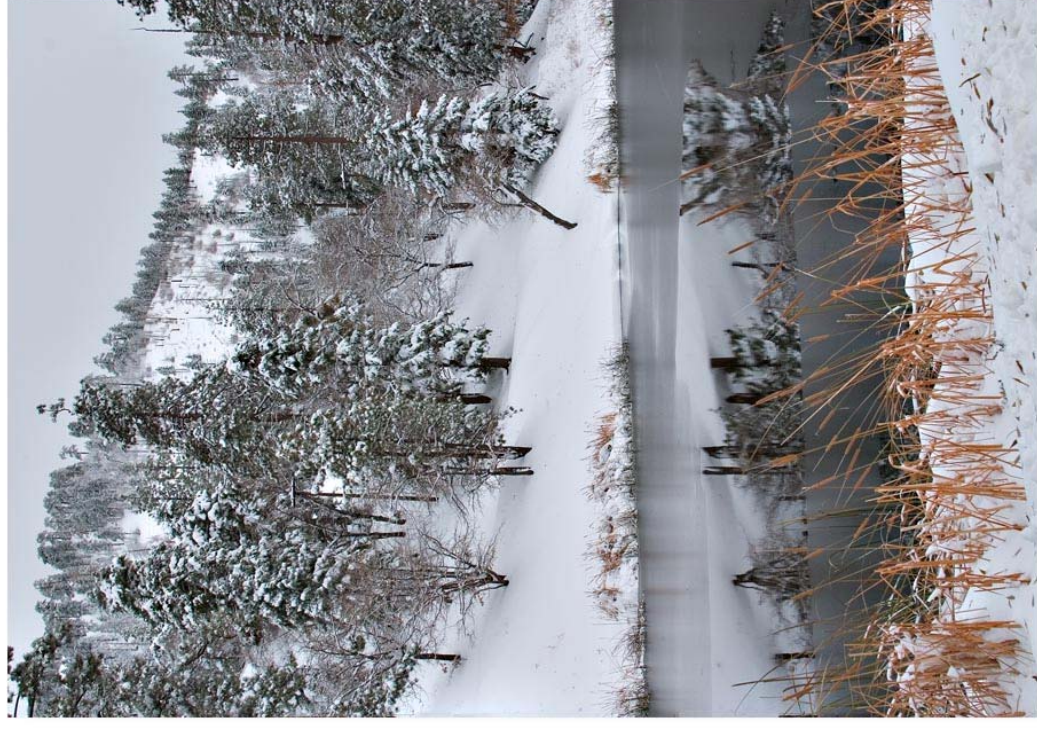
December 2004

The Los Angeles area received considerable snow a few weeks ago. It reminded us of the coming season of celebration.

The SEDXC wishes all our members and world-wide friends Health and Peace.

We take the responsibility of offering an outstretched hand to all people, neighbors on our planet.

Good DX



Soap Box— Words from our President



Congratulations to Dick Norton, N6AA as the new Southwestern Division Director good luck and best wishes for the coming three years.

Our **Tower Project** is coming along well. Thanks to the young and strong, our 5' x 5' x 8' hole is complete and an 80' trench are in place and awaiting the services of Skip KJ6Y for rebar, cement, and

with the help of Larry K6YUI, we have 80' of pipe in the ground ready for coax, control cables, etc. Hopefully, depending on the rainy season and holidays the Tower should

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DUES ARE DUE

Remember, on Dec 31, club dues will be past due.

Eighteen bucks sent to the club treasurer will insure your membership in the best DX Club in the USA and allow you vote for officers in Jan.

Send a check now to the club Membership - Larry Mallek, K6YUI

de the Veep



A message from the Veep: I need your reservations to the Holiday Party so I can sleep at night so please send your reservations in as early as possible.

>>>>

This year's Holiday Party will be on Sunday afternoon, December 05, 2004 at the Orange Hill Restaurant, in the city of Orange. The Party will

be from 12:30pm to 3:00pm +/- QRM.

This year we will be in a PRIVATE ROOM! all by ourselves and ready to party. We are looking to get the largest attendance ever so be sure to get your reservations early. If you have been to the party in the last two years you know the food is unbelievably good and this year with our own PRIVATE ROOM! it will be better than ever, the food is delicious and much too much. You go for Brunch, but you can have Breakfast, Lunch or Dinner. If you want to come and have a hard time getting around, please let Jim, N6DHZ know by e-mail at n6dhz@scdxc.org. He will find someone who is coming from your area to maybe car-pool with you.

When we say brunch, we mean BRUNCH. There are over 130 items on the brunch menu, so we promise you will not leave hungry. The Orange Hill Restaurant is a fantastic hill top location in Orange County, about 3-4 miles east of the 55 freeway on Chapman Ave. So you may want to bring your portable HF radios with you, because we may just have a competition to see who can work the best DX from this super

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Next General Meeting

The SCDXC meets the second Thursday of the month. Our next meeting will be held December 9, 2004 at Syd Kronenthal Park in Culver City. The park is located 4 blocks west of La Cienega Blvd. and 2 blocks south of Washington Blvd. From the 10 Freeway exit La Cienega south to Washington Blvd. Turn right (west) 4 blocks to McManus Ave (it's La Cienega Ave to the right, McManus to the left). Turn left (south) 2 blocks to the Park. The street dead-ends at the parking lot. Please do not park in the school lot.

See ya there!

Bubba's Spot



December? Where has the year gone? Damn, am I old enough to say that? Bubba had a busy October. The Elk hunt was a once in a lifetime hunt for me. I shot a huge 6x6 Elk on opening day and the Bubbas will have plenty of meat for the rest of the year and I will have memories forever.

The October SCDXC meeting was well attended. Bob, N6OX, brought us up to date on the Peter I DXpedition, I know he is getting excited. The waiting.....oh the waiting! January 9th will be here before you know it then we will all be doing the DX yodel. I sure hope to beat someone out in the pile-ups... anyone, since I am usually the last one through. I am now thinking of the pictures of Peter I and thinking how cold it will be. There will be no going home when you're tired and frozen to the bone. Tough guys these DXpeditioners.

Carl, WU6D, started an interesting discussion on what got us into and keeps us on the air. Most were more than willing to share some of their experiences and interesting stories. Many stories made me smile and

nod my head in agreement. The stories made Bubba wish he had got on the radio at 15 years old instead of 50ish, wink, wink. I enjoyed talking with Balu, VU2BDD he was a first timer and seemed to have a good time, also, hi to Ken K6CMO. Hope to see you both at the next meeting.

Jim, N6DHZ, did another outstanding job with the raffle prizes. I have had my eye on a Heil Pro-set for a while and there was one on the table, oh lucky days! The first ticket pulled was Tom, N6OT (my brother), and I gently pointed him to the headset. Next ticket pulled was N6GIL, Marilyn, and Skip chose a nice power source. Carl, WU6D was next. Now for the surprise.....N6OT walked up to me and said here, I know you could use this and you have been wanting a headset. Thanks Tom, Bubba was thrilled.

Lastly, does Bubba make a difference? While listening to the Southwest Division Directors Net on Sunday morning, I heard Her Honor, Ms. President, K6VC, say she has been Bubbatized.....I am just a reporter so you will have to ask her.

Bubba says good DX to all until next time.

N6AA ELECTED SOUTHWESTERN DIVISION DIRECTOR

Richard J. "Dick" Norton, N6AA, of Topanga, California, will be the new ARRL Southwestern Division Director. Norton thwarted a bid by current Southwestern Division Vice Director Tuck Miller, NZ6T, to gain a seat on the ARRL Board of Directors. The final tally was 2662 to 1451 votes. A retired businessman and electrical engineer and an ARRL Charter Life Member, Norton's been a radio amateur for 49 years and is a member of the CQ Contesting Hall of Fame. He competed at the 2002



World Radiosport Team Championship and is a pioneer in computerized contest log checking.

Norton will succeed current Southwestern Division Director Art Goddard, W6XD, who's held the seat since 2002 but decided not to run for the 2005-2007 term. During his campaign Norton pledged to work to defend Amateur Radio frequencies, help amateurs in their communities and grow the number of Amateur Radio operators and ARRL members of all ages.

RESERVATIONS

Last call to get your reservations for the 2004 Holiday Party. Please visit the web site at <http://www.scdxc.org/holiday.html> and get your registration flyer. The cost is \$30.00 per person. please make checks payable to SCDXC and mail the to Jim, N6DHZ.

Propagation December 2004

by Shel, W6EL



These predictions for the five prime HF bands show the times when propagation is expected to be best from Los Angeles to several locations that are expected to be active during the coming month. Other times are possible, but with weaker signals or lower probability. Openings are not expected on bands that are not listed. A solar flux of 115, corresponding to a sunspot number of 61, and an average geomagnetic field are assumed. Sunrise/sunset

times are at the DX location. All times are UTC. Good luck and good DX from Shel, W6EL.

VU4 Andaman & Nicobar - 12/3 to 12/31 -
Beam 321 degrees
Sunrise/sunset (on 12/08) 2359/1123
40: 1200-1430.
20: 1200-1430. Long path 2330-0130.
15: Around 1730.

FO Marquesas - 12/11 to 11/23—
Beam 209 degrees
Sunrise/sunset (on 12/17) 1500/0333
80: 0530-1400.
40: 0330-1430.
20: 0100-0700.
15: 1600-0200.
10: 1700-0030.

YS El Salvador - 12/9 to 12/29 - Beam 120 degrees
Sunrise/sunset (on 12/19) 1217/2339
80: 0200-1200.
40: 0030-1300.
20: 1500-0030.
15: 1630-2230.

ZD8 Ascension Island - 12/21 to 12/22 - Beam 89 degrees
Sunrise/sunset (on 12/22) 0643/1910
80: 0200-0630.
40: 0030-0700.
20: 2200-0100.
15: 1530-2300.
10: 1700-2100.

ZK1 South Cook Islands - 12/24 to 12/30—
degrees
Sunrise/sunset (on 12/27) 1602/0512
80: 0630-1400.
40: 0500-1430.
20: 0200-0330.
15: 1700-0130.
10: 1900-2330.

Beam 222

SK

We are saddened to report the passing of Belle, K9DOG. She was a great buddy of W6AUG and participated in his morning walks for many years.



(Continued from page 2)

de da Veeep

location!! There will be some great prizes too. Please plan to join the club and help us finish of another fantastic year for the SCDXC!!!

Date: - Sunday, December 5, 2004
Time: - 12:30pm - 3:00pm
Orange Hill Restaurant
6410 E Chapman, Orange, CA 92669
714-997-2910

Sit down at Sunday Brunch (all you can eat) including fantastic soups, salads, appetizers, omelets, en-trees, desserts, beverages, etc. Raffle Prizes. Casual attire. Oh by the way did I mention PRIVATE ROOM!

We will have a special grand prize for the raffle and a YL only drawing and every YL in attendance will get a special prize. 73

ZD7 St. Helena - 12/24 to 1/1 - Beam 91 degrees
Sunrise/sunset (on 12/28) 0557/1852
80: 0330-0500.
40: 0130-0530.
20: 2300-0100.
15: 1830-2330.
10: 1630-2130.

ZF Cayman Islands - 12/26 to 1/4 - Beam 104 degrees
Sunrise/sunset (on 12/31) 1200/2253
80: 0230-1200.
40: 0030-1300.
20: 1500-0030.
15: 1639-2200.

IOTA activity

by...Fred N6AWD



I got involved in IOTA in 1993 and since then the program has grown to activity all over the world with thousands participating. In the last 10 years over 200 IOTA groups were activated for the first time. The current leader is F9RM who now has credit for 1038 at the last submission period. The

honor roll now contains 544 members and last year there were 1551 that submitted their current achievements. A numerical standing is published once a year and one can update their score every January.



Anyone who is current on the DXCC honor roll, or even has 300 entities confirmed, can easily get started with a minimum of 100 IOTA groups for credit. The chase for islands is just as exciting as any of the various dxcc programs, just more numerous. Qsl cards are required for credit and checkpoints are setup for North America.

HAM OPERATORS WANTED

The Emergency Operations Organization of the City of Los Angeles has designated the Los Angeles Fire Department to manage its amateur radio program under the Auxiliary Communication Service agreement with the State Office of Emergency Services. The Fire Chief has authorized the group to enroll up to 500 licensed Hams to be trained to back up the Department's 800 MHz radio system, provide radio support to CERT members, their families and their Battalion leadership and 40 meter support to USAR for passing health and welfare traffic. If you are a licensed amateur radio operator who desires to serve the Department and the community, contact the Los Angeles Fire Department Radio Interoperability Project Coordinator at (213) 978-3530 or at krn7933@lafd.lacity.org and tune in to the LAFD-ACS NET on Monday evenings at 1930. The 2-meter Repeater frequency is 147.300 +600 with a PL of 110.9. The 220 band is 224.680 -1.6 with a PL of 114."

Captain Kevin Nida
Radio Interoperability Project Coordinator
213-978-3530
krn7933@lafd.lacity.org



VACATION TIME

Peter Kahn, K6PSK, sends us these photos of Rich, W6VX, on the vessel "Kahnquest" in Canada this Summer. They were cruising from Vancouver B.C. to Friday Harbor in the San Jaun Islands Lat N48.32 W123.00



To the editor

WA6BOB brightened my day with this essay. I am sure we can all relate to this. ENJOY!

Attached is a letter as was exactly received from a former next door neighbor while I resided in Castro Valley, California.
I presume many will get a laugh from this. BTW, Jack was and still is a Professor of Business Administration at California State College Hayward..

It takes all kinds.

Sincerely,

John (Bob) WA6BOB

Copy of TVI & RFI complaint from my next-door neighbor, sent to the FCC.

May 19, 1979

Federal Communications
555 Battery Street
Room 323A
San Francisco, CA 94111

Attn. Code 3.

This letter is submitted as a complaint against John B. Orton, 17552 Garland Court, Castro Valley, CA, 94546 and as a request for information and clarification of our respective rights and responsibilities.

Mr. Orton moved next door to us about three years ago and shortly thereafter we started to experience considerable interference from his amateur radio operations in our television, radio and telephone. By far, the television problem is the most bothersome.

The television set in question is a color set, presently on "rabbit ears," with remote control and some sort of filter between the rabbit ears and the set (provided by Mr. John Orton.) Until about six months ago, it was connected to a roof antenna. We have found that there is somewhat less interference with the "rabbit ears" than with the roof antenna. The set was recently inspected and "perked up." We were informed by the service repairman that there was nothing wrong with it.

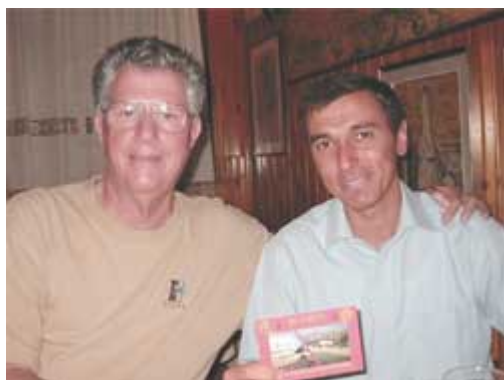
The main problem is that when Mr. Orton is transmitting, the picture becomes seriously distorted and his voice comes in over the audio. Sometimes the set goes on and off and or changes channels and/ or changes volume radically from Morse code. A lesser problem is that the television may come on in the middle of the night. We have learned to cope with this part of the problem by turning the set off before going to bed in a way that disconnects the remote. At least, I think that is what it does.

A recent incident, and the one that prompted this letter, occurred at about 11:00 pm on Wednesday, May 17, 1979. The interference was quite strong and I called Mr. Orton. It was agreed, after a rather heated exchange, that I should direct my complaints to the F.C.C. The following morning Mr. Orton's Morse code was coming in over the radio quite strongly. At 8:10 a.m. on the same morning he was also coming in on the T.V. when my son attempted to watch a few minutes of T.V. before going to school.

None of these events is unusual. Similar incidents have occurred many times in the past. Mr. Orton's response to my complaints was initially cooperative and responsive. Similarly, we have shown a great deal of patience. There have been dozens of times when we have not watched T.V. because he was transmitting, however in recent months the relationship has changed and we now have an impasse.

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More Vacation Photos de K6YRA



Here is an Oct. 04 picture of Martino-
IK3RIY in Venice, Italy



This photo includes IT9CIS.



Taormina, Sicily
with Marco, IT9WPO (IH9P)

A NOTE FROM RANDY

The article about my February 2004 trip to
The Bahamas is currently featured at QST
Online at

[http://www.arrl.org/news/
features/2004/11/15/1/?nc=1](http://www.arrl.org/news/features/2004/11/15/1/?nc=1)

I'll be going there again in another 10 days
for the CQ WW DX CW contest.

The antenna line-up will be a little more
ambitious this time, but still all wire. Still
trying to get everything into a 48" long
package.

Trusty old Sigma 5 vertical
15 m - 5/8 wavelength dipole
20 m - Moxon
40 m - inverted Vee "beam"
80 & 160 - dipole

I hope that I can work all of you then or
after the contest.
73,

Randy W6SJ/C6AWS

WANTED Stuff for the SCDXC Newsletter. Submit articles and news of interest to the editor at
harv@scdxc.org

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TVI — WA6BOB

Mr. Orton's position is that he has a clean set and that I should go on the cable to avoid his interference, I refuse to do this. I have the trouble with the idea that everyone who lives near a ham radio operator should have to go on the cable or take any other extraordinary measures to avoid interference of this sort. I question the implication in his position that he or amateur radio operators in general have some sort of pre-emptive right to the airways.

I request that you process this complaint under your usual procedures and that you provide me with information on my rights and responsibilities in this matter. It is emphasized that I have no desire to stop Mr. Orton's amateur radio activities or to curtail them any more than is necessary to keep him out of my T.V. and presumably out of those of others in the neighborhood.

John G. Kilgore, Castro Valley (plaintiff)

And now a brief comment from the Defendants side:

Jack declined free cable TV to be provided by me.

Jack declined a new TV from me, as his was an old Magnavox with ultra sound remote chimes. I did install aluminum foil and grounded the chassis to eliminate TVI, to which he didn't mention in detail.

Jack declined fully shielded telephone lines within the house, at my expense.

Jack declined service from the Telephone Company for RF suppression at the line drop.

Jack also had aluminum wallpaper installed on the south side interior of his house so as to prohibit RF from burning his kids' brains. THIS IS A FACT! As was stated to me by his daughter when she turned 18 and moved out.

Jack also prohibited his children to enter our house when he found out we had microwave ovens

There were no further complaints from any other neighbors from the first time they contacted me as I bought several new TV's to remedy some of the problems with older models.

All neighbors accepted cable TV free from me.

All neighbors accepted shielded lines for Telephones as well as good phones and none of the cheap types.

All neighbors were impressed with my response to immediately remedy their problems.

As to the FCC, well they sent Jack an interference handbook and also advised him to accept my offers of free repairs. Jack declined to accept.

I continued residence at that location as well as being very active as a multi multi with the NCCC, and then moved in 1991.

73, John B. Orton (Bob) WA6BOB

CW is the sound of music.

Notice to Candidates

You are invited to submit a brief article in support of your candidacy to the SCDXC Newsletter. These will be published in the January edition.

Deadline for submission is December 20th. E mail to harv@scdxc.org

Why Johnny isn't a Ham

(or Joannie)

By Paul Stevenson AD6PC

Editors note: This article may be one of the most important pieces published in the newsletter for the past ten years. I encourage YOU to send in your responses and ideas as to how the SCDXC can provide positive help to maintain the hobby as we know it. K6EXO

I missed most of the discussion Thursday night (November 11) about getting new blood in Ham Radio. I got into Ham Radio entirely on my own initiative. I learned electronics through a correspondence course while in the Air Force. I learned code while serving overseas. A few years later, I walked into a local ham radio club's license class. The instructor was sending practice at five WPM. I copied the practice well enough to pass the FCC test. That same evening they had me fill out a FCC 610, and signed off on the code test. A few weeks later I passed the written test. By this time I was helping teach the license class. Within eighteen months I moved up through Technician, General, Advanced, and Extra. All this talk about Elmers, mentors, etc. is alien to my experience and I haven't a clue as to how to motivate someone into a difficult and expensive hobby, if they lack the initiative to do it on their own.

Did anybody notice a letter in QST a while back about a youngster who was interested in Ham Radio but his parents objected because they thought Ham Radio was, like the Internet, 'infested' with pedophiles? (His parents sound like my parents.) The editor of QST published the letter without comment.. I believe most of these west side yuppies are more interested in getting their offspring into Harvard or Berkeley Law rather than Cal Tech. "Aerospace, they make weapons of mass destruction. Aerospace wastes tax dollars. Blah, blah, blah. What s does ham radio have to do with law school?"

My parents, after pricing the latest Heathkit, Drake, or Hallicrafters gear were very blunt. "Spend all your time studying. Get better grades. You can waste your time on ham radio when you graduate from college." The first high dollar purchase most parents will make for their kids today, is a personal computer. Asking them to fork over another two thousand dollars or more for an SSB transceiver and antenna is as futile as shoveling sand with a pitchfork. Meanwhile, the media glorifies computer nerds. (I regard the term 'nerd' as an insult.) Television tends to ridicule any life style that doesn't involve sitting passively before the boob tube watching their silly shows. The ARRL wants us to use the media to recruit new hams yet, a few years ago, a local TV show about ham radio labeled us (libeled us?) 'radio nerds.'

Don't look to our public school systems for encouragement. My high school was more interested in football and basketball. Kids bright enough for college were tracked towards school teaching. My principal wasn't interested in the space program. "N.A.S.A.? He's the president of Egypt." The emphasis on English and Math Skills emphasized by President Bushes' No Child Left Behind has played havoc with the budget for teaching sciences; Biology, Chemistry, and Physics, which require expensive lab equipment. Recently, I noticed a dilapidated 20 Meter beam on a tower at Inglewood High School. Does the school still have a ham club, or any working equipment? Is the faculty or staff open or hostile to starting a ham club? Are we missing an opportunity here?

There are some people whom I don't care to recruit for the hobby. (My brothers-in-law, to name four) Having come up through 'the ranks' I still have little patience with those who whine about having to learn the code. We're only a generation removed from the days when trains were still dispatched by land line telegraph using the American Morse code. Thousands of men and women learned American Morse to land jobs with the railroads and telegraph companies. Today, retired railroad telegraphers and telegraph equipment collectors are still using American Morse on home computers, using dial up systems or the Internet. You can even find software to train you in American Morse. Meanwhile, with the code requirement dropped for a ham license, the ARRL has predicting the death of CW. When it comes to prognostication, I wouldn't take the ARRL on a trip to Hollywood Park.

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Why Johnny isn't a Ham

Recently, I checked several ham clubs in Los Angeles County that offer training classes for the ham license. None of them offered code. I believe CW will be a staple in DXing for a long time to come and if we want to recruit new hams to DXing then perhaps we should offer code training ourselves. I work DX in three modes which triples your chances of working a new country.

Even after I got my Ham license, when I was a twenty seven year old Vietnam service veteran with a job and my own apartment, my parents expressed their disapproval of my hobby. This is a typical attitude of our society. "Why can't you be like everybody else, work in a dreary office all day, then sit in front of the boob tube watching The Dukes of Hazzard or reading Barbara Cartland novels all evening?" and "When are you going to sell that fancy motorcycle, buy a station wagon, and get married?" The same type of people are behind the anti-antenna ordinances that threaten us today. This is the target market for BPL (which I think will fail commercially, since there are too many superior services already available.) I can understand someone in the Hollywood Hills or Pacific Palisades who doesn't want a tower intruding on their view but in some of these Mega Box developments a tower would be an improvement over the monotony of mediocre look-alike dwellings.

Our hobby isn't the only one under assault by the forces of mediocrity. In Chatsworth, development is threatening to obliterate bridal trails used by the equestrian community since the days when Hollywood was shooting Westerns there. We just went through a fight with a condo development on the west side about access to hiking and mountain bike trails. In many communities you can't park your car in the driveway overnight or keep a boat or motor home on your property. And what's left for the denizens of those million dollar boxes to do? Surfing the Internet, watching TV, listening to John Tesh CDs? Boring! My sister bought a house in a planned community the year I got my ham ticket. She bragged endlessly about how outside TV, ham radio, CB, and satellite antennas were banned, then she insisted that I buy a house there too. (How that woman got through college with her brains is open to impolite conjecture.)

The ARRL seems intent on promoting Ham Radio as the latest yuppie consumer fad. They promote Two Meter FM and repeaters as the gateway into Amateur Radio. This is our hobby's future, to compete with Verizon, AT&T and other cell phone services? I had friends who have been active on 220 MHz repeaters for decades, who have no interest in HF operating or DXing. Hams recruited to the hobby through FM either stay on the repeaters or get bored and leave the hobby. I did ... for twenty years. This chestnut that you need a yagi up fifty feet, a full kilowatt linear, and the most expensive radio on the market to work DX didn't help win converts either. Many DXers made DXCC with dipoles and second hand gear. I didn't read that in QST.

We're DXers. We should be recruiting DXers. The problem with the ARRL is there isn't just one ham radio hobby, it's a loose collection of specialized hobbies, all demanding the league's attention. Perhaps we DXers need to form a national organization that caters to us.

Who We Are

The SCDXC Newsletter is published monthly by the Southern California DX Club and is e-mailed to all club members. Please notify the editor if you do not receive your newsletter, have a change of address, or have found an error. Please direct all submissions to the editor.

The SCDXC generally permits re-use of any article in the Newsletter as long as the newsletter and the article's author are credited. However, some articles may be copyrighted by the author. Please contact the editor.

Club Repeater: W6AM/R ,145.48 MHz, 100 Hz PL, Club Web Site: www.scdxc.org

Newsletter Editor: is Harvey Shore K6EXO, 6433 Pat Ave West Hills, CA 91307, (818) 716-5681
E-mail: harv@scdxc.org

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SOAP BOX

be in place by the end of December.

Our radio is going into the shop for repairs, lost the rear speaker and can only put out 50 watts, so going in for a check up and repair.

Hope to see you all at the Holiday Brunch! You will be missing a great time of socializing and friendship. If I don't see you at the Brunch, have great holidays, be safe and Happy New Year! See you at Club on January 13, 2005.

I look forward to working with our new board in 2005. Remember that this is an open floor election and if you are interested in any position, please advise Jim N6DHz, so you can be added to the list.



Cheep labour



Deeeep Hole



**W6YY with the RED
HATTERS and**

**HARDHAT SOCIETY at the Doooo
Dahhhh Parade in Pasadena.**



Who says Hams don't have
fun?



The membership of the SCDXC has been invited to the December meeting of the SBE.



Society of Broadcast Engineers Los Angeles - Chapter 47



SBE Chapter 47 - Dinner Meeting
Tuesday - Dec 14th, 2004
Holiday Inn, Carousel Restaurant - Burbank, CA

Guest Speaker: BOB HEIL

JOIN US FOR INTERESTING CONVERSATION, GOOD FELLOWSHIP, A GOOD MEAL, INFORMATION OF IMPORTANCE TO OUR RESPECTIVE ORGANIZATIONS.

6:30 PM Dinner (optional)
7:30 Meeting with Bob Heil
Meals are optional for \$15 and receipts will be offered.

RSVP: Please place your reservation by calling the SBE Reservation Line at 310-840-2431.

DIRECTIONS: Take Interstate 5 (Golden State Freeway North to Burbank and exit at Olive Avenue. Those that exit from the North bound lanes of the freeway will be on San Angeleno as you exit the freeway. Cross 1st Street. The Holiday Inn will be on your right. Park in the parking structure. The South bound lanes should exit at Verdugo. As you exit, turn left on the frontage road and follow under the freeway. This will place you on Verdugo. Turn left at 1st Street and right on San Angeleno. The Holiday Inn will be on your right.

